

(Capsule)

John B. Dowell House (SITE)

A log house of the one room up and one down variety which was doubled in size by a frame addition. Destroyed by fire in the 1940's, this building is now in ruins. The house once commanded a view of the bay and was the home of Ben Dowell, the operator of a nearby store. Mr. Dowell only purchased the property in the 1880's, however, and it is believed that the cabin was there prior to that.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

CLVT 155

CT-155

MAGI # 0501555627

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Log House, Lusby John B. Dowell House, site

AND/OR COMMON

Woolford House

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

Solomons Island Road (Maryland Routes 2,4)
Dirt Road, east of A and East of power lines at head of St. Leonards Creek

CITY, TOWN

Woodland Bridge, St. Leonard X VICINITY OF Walnut Cove

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Calvert

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

___DISTRICT

___BUILDING(S)

___STRUCTURE

___SITE

___OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

___PUBLIC

___PRIVATE

___BOTH

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

___IN PROCESS

___BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

___OCCUPIED

___UNOCCUPIED

___WORK IN PROGRESS

ACCESSIBLE

___YES: RESTRICTED

___YES: UNRESTRICTED

___NO

PRESENT USE

___AGRICULTURE

___COMMERCIAL

___EDUCATIONAL

___ENTERTAINMENT

___GOVERNMENT

___INDUSTRIAL

___MILITARY

___MUSEUM

___PARK

___PRIVATE RESIDENCE

___RELIGIOUS

___SCIENTIFIC

___TRANSPORTATION

___OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Walter E. Rogers

Telephone #: 586-1087

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

___ VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE.

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Liber #: AWR 41/173

Folio #:

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

STATE

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

___FEDERAL ___STATE ___COUNTY ___LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION**CONDITION**☐ EXCELLENT☐ GOOD☐ FAIR☐ DETERIORATED☒ RUINS☐ UNEXPOSED**CHECK ONE**☐ UNALTERED☐ ALTERED**CHECK ONE**☐ ORIGINAL SITE☐ MOVED

DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCELog House

Approximately one-half mile back the dirt road (east of power line) adjoining the south side of Long's property are the remains of a house which has been destroyed by fire.

This appears to have been a one up/one down house (east wing) which was later doubled in size by a two-story addition.

The first floor of the original house was constructed of logs joined at the ends via half-dovetail joints. The second floor was of frame construction suggesting the possibility that it was also an addition.

The west wing is a frame structure which exactly doubled the size of the original 17' x 14' house. The whole structure measures 34' x 14' and was partitioned off to form a central hall and double parlor plan with two entrances on the north facade (front), one for each wing. Each wing was heated by an interior flue chimney serving false fireplaces (at least on the first floor.)

Destruction caused by fire and subsequent abandonment makes further description difficult however this much is known of the building's history:

In an interview (3/16/77) with Mrs. Grace M. Truman (eighty-nine years old), who was raised in this house, the following information was gained.

Her father, Ben Dowell, purchased the log cabin, and it was he who built the additions on to it. It was one up/one down, and Mrs. Truman remembers a fireplace with a large chimney outside.

When they lived here, her father operated a store on the Old Bayside Road, which was only 20 - 30 yards east of the house. The house had a porch, and one had a wonderful view of the bay from this spot.

Fishermen from Crisfield and other places across the bay used to stay in shanties down on the beach during certain seasons of the year. They came up to Mr. Dowell's store for supplies, and some would visit at the house where they were entertained by the Dowell's pump organ and games of croquet.

There were outbuildings, which included two barns, a stable, and a meathouse.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

8 SIGNIFICANCE**PERIOD**

☐ PREHISTORIC
☐ 1400-1499
☐ 1500-1599
☐ 1600-1699
☐ 1700-1799
☒ 1800-1899
☐ 1900-

☐ ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC
☐ ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC
☐ AGRICULTURE
☐ ARCHITECTURE
☐ ART
☐ COMMERCE
☐ COMMUNICATIONS

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW

☐ COMMUNITY PLANNING
☐ CONSERVATION
☐ ECONOMICS
☐ EDUCATION
☐ ENGINEERING
☐ EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT
☐ INDUSTRY
☐ INVENTION

☐ LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE
☐ LAW
☐ LITERATURE
☐ MILITARY
☐ MUSIC
☐ PHILOSOPHY
☐ POLITICS/GOVERNMENT

☐ RELIGION
☐ SCIENCE
☐ SCULPTURE
☐ SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
☐ THEATER
☐ TRANSPORTATION
☐ OTHER (SPECIFY)

SPECIFIC DATES Pre-1880's**BUILDER/ARCHITECT****STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE**

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9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY _____

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE

COUNTY

STATE

COUNTY

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Wayne L. Nield II

Winter 76-77

ORGANIZATION

Historic Sites Survey

TELEPHONE

STREET & NUMBER

c/o Planning Office

CITY OR TOWN

Prince Frederick, MD 20678

STATE

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 267-1438

TITLE

JLB 60/259, (November 21, 1952) shows Sarah M. Woolford, one heir, taking ownership from the other heirs of John B. Dowell. His wife, Laura, was originally one of the heirs; she died in 1947.

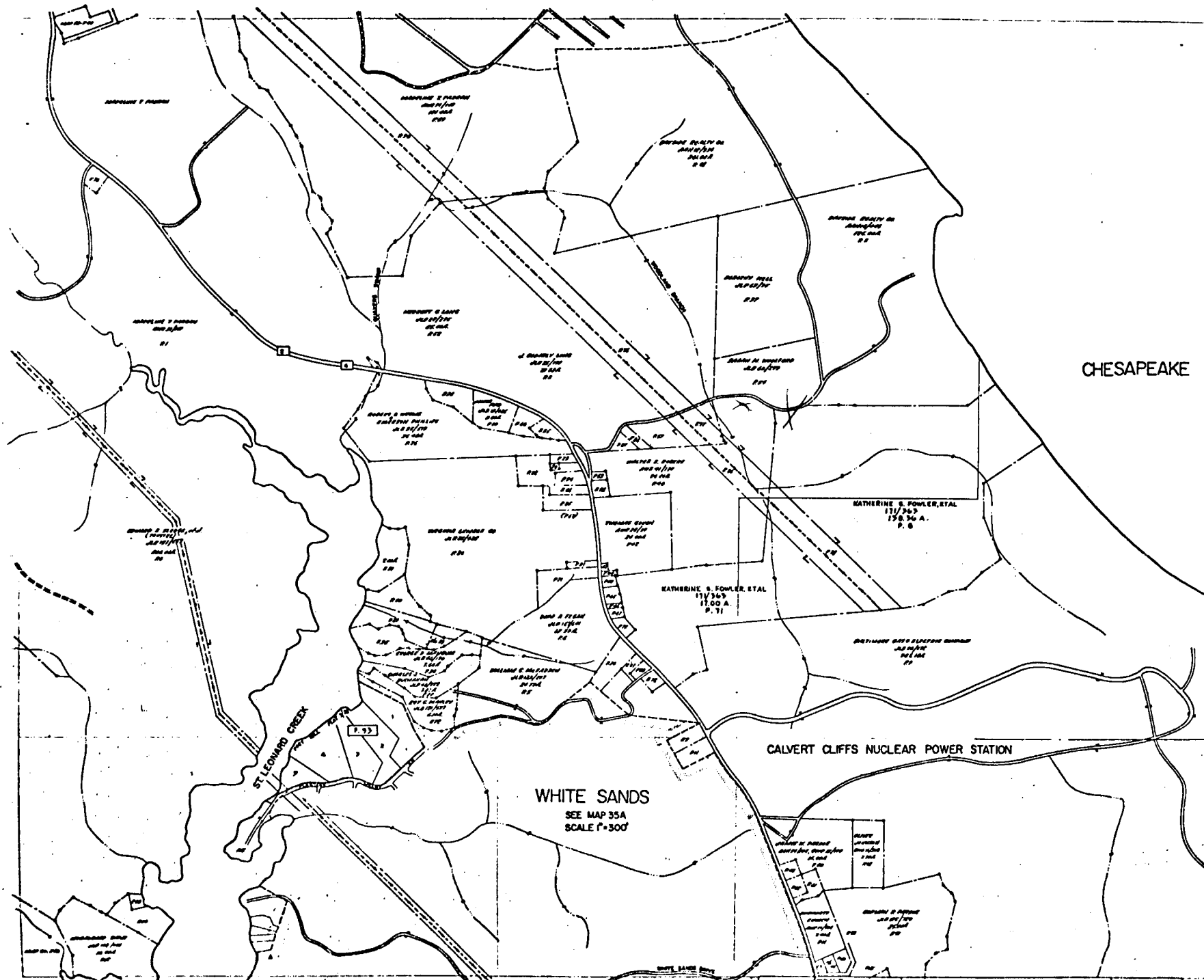
SS7/394, (September 3, 1886) shows that John B. Dowell bought the property in 1884. It was sold to him by a court appointed trustee settling the equity case concerning the property of Margaret E. Somervell. The case involved 125 acres which ran from the bay westward and included this site.

SS1/60 shows Margaret E. Somervell selling 7 acres to John T. Johnson on June 29, 1880, and the property is described as "being part of Flag Ponds Farm." There are no other records concerning Margaret Somervell's ownership.

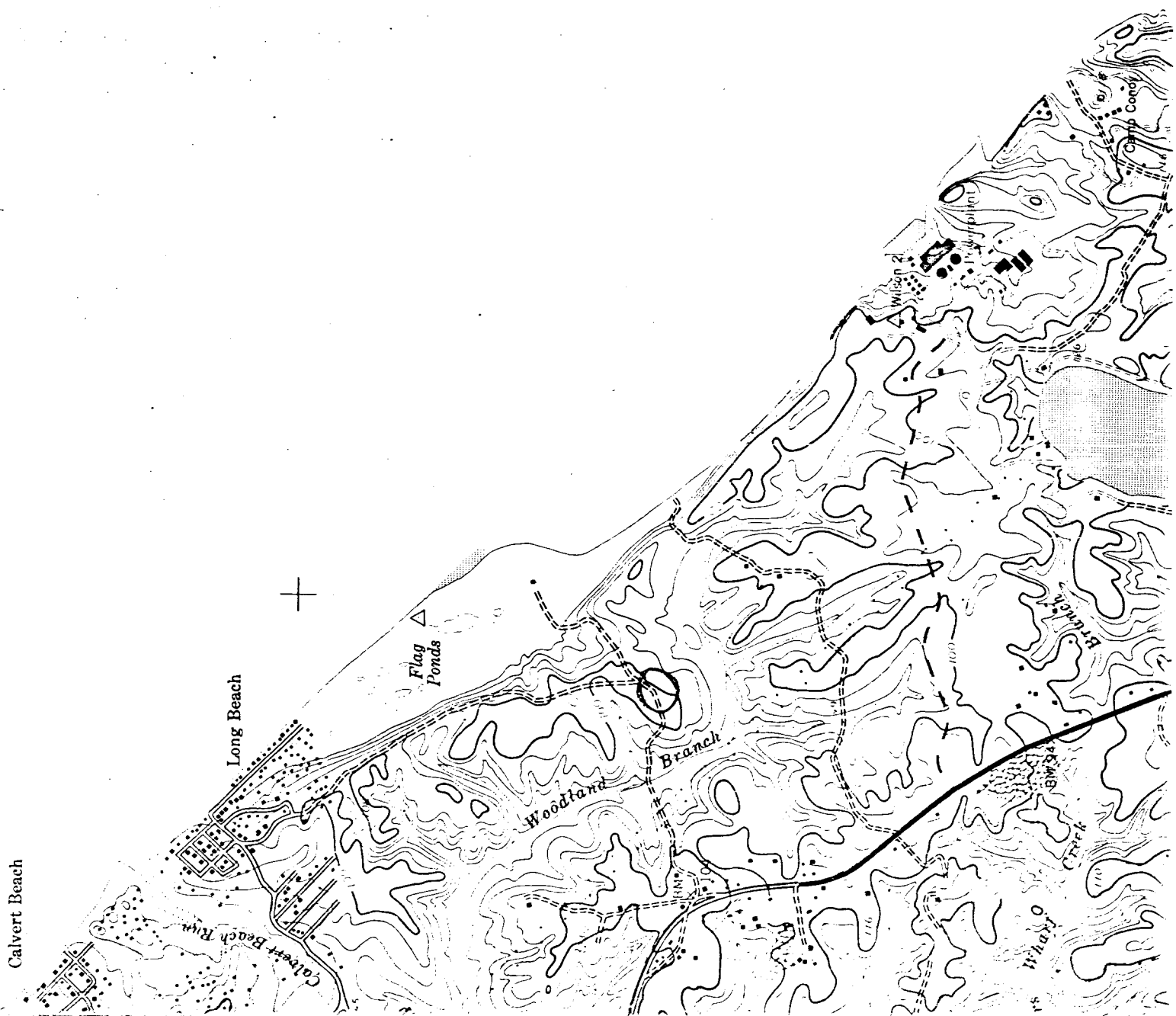
SS1/16/18 shows that she was the wife of Alexander Somervell as early as 1873. SS5/154, however, indicates that his residence in 1877 was "Point Patience" near Solomons. It is presumed that the Somervells did not occupy the log cabin near Flag Ponds.

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CLVT-155

Wayne L. Nield, II
Historic Sites Survey
Broom's Island, Maryland 20615
1989

John B. Dowell House



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John B. Dowell House

Wayne L. Nield, II

Historic Sites Survey

Broomes Island, Maryland 20615

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